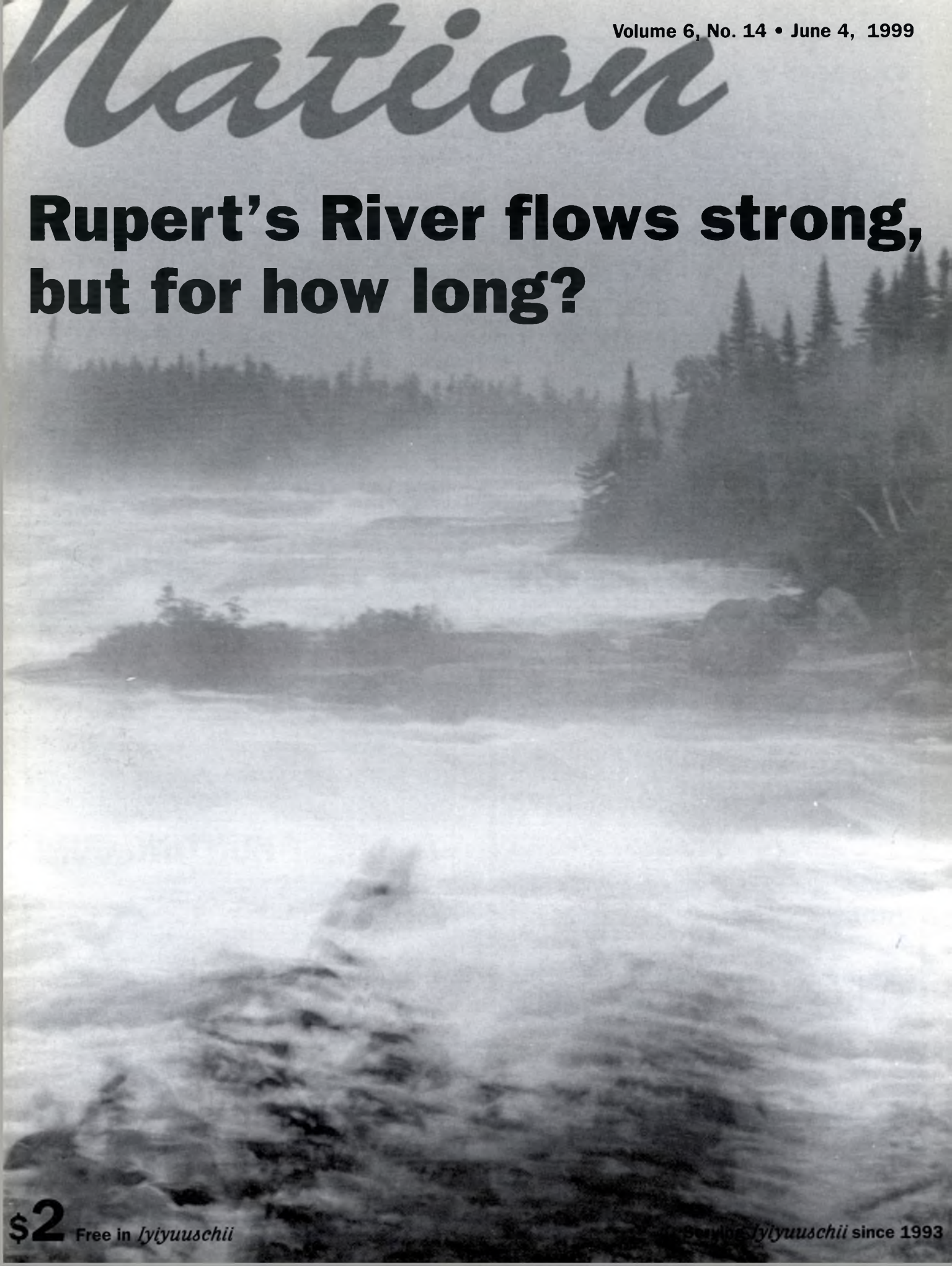
Nation

Volume 6, No. 14 • June 4, 1999

Rupert's River flows strong, but for how long?



$2 Free in *Iyiyuuschii*

Serving *Iyiyuuschii* since 1993

Dodge DAKOTA Trucks

SPECIAL PRICES ON 1998 MODELS!

215, 3e Avenue
Val d'Or, QC
J9P1R7

Dodge RAM Trucks

AUTOMOBILE BARRAUTE

Plymouth
CHRYSLER
Camions Dodge
Jeep/Eagle

ᐸᑕᐣ ᐅ
ᑭᓱᓕᕆᑕᑎᓂᐊᓕᖅ
ᒪᓴ ᑲᒋᐟᐃᓗ ᒪᐃᓱᓂᖅ
ᐊᐅᖏᑭᓚᐅᐃᐱᐊᓕᖅ
ᐅᑕᕐᓇᓴ ᐅᑎᓂᑦᓇ
ᐅᑕᕐᓇᓴ.

Bring this ad and get a free remote starter with the purchase of any vehicle

For information:
your representative
Yvon St-Pierre
819-825-0880

SPECIAL PRICES ON 1998 MODELS!

Plymouth VOYAGER

Jeep

ᓄᓇᕗᑦ CANADIAN TIRE WACHIYA!

• Hunting • Fishing • Camping •
• Ammunition • Sporting Goods •
• Automotive Parts & Repair •
• Hardware & Houseware

C.O.D.'s ACCEPTED

Phone or Fax in your orders
Tel.: 819.762.4375
Fax:819.762.4374

ROUYN-NORANDA
10 Dallaire Promenades du Cuivre

Jacques Carignan
Associate Dealer

Excellence sports

191, 3e Rue. Chibougamau (Qc), G8P 1N3
tel.: (418) 748-8137 fax: (418)748-2434

THE BEST HUNTING GUN!

Remington.
model 11-87 premier 12 gauge
autoloading shotgun

NEW TROPHIES

5% ADDITIONAL DISCOUNT
on a case of 10

Team Shirts and Jackets available!

ᓭᓐᓄ
ᓴᓇᔨᓴᒃᑯᓐᓄ
Welcome!
Bienvenue!

Month of the long knives

BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS

The cries of Cree unity had barely died away before four of the nine Cree chiefs met with Minister Guy Chevrette to talk about the suspension of MOU funding (News, page 5). Chevrette was the Quebec politician who suspended essential-services funding to the Crees under the guise of "we can't negotiate while we're going to court."

Chevrette and PQ & Co. weren't happy because the Crees were taking Quebec, among others, to the courts over their inaction with the effects of forestry on the Crees.

As most Crees were out on the land living up to their traditions, the four reversed the direction of the geese to fly south, crying foul over the forestry case. They said they were being penalized for the forestry case, which had nothing to do with them, according to reports. I guess they were saying, "We'll negotiate because we aren't going to court."

I understand and know why. It's simple.. You need essential services. It's simple... The legacy of the past made it policy to turn reserves into such utter hopeless hellholes that Natives would leave them to flock to the cities and become disenfranchised, hence "regular" Canadians.

It was genocidal and the legacy lives on today in the fact there is very little economic base in any Indian community without a casino. There have been many reports concerning the third- and fourth-world conditions on reserves. It's nothing new, yet it is something the average Canadian doesn't consider.

While millions of government dollars go to third- and fourth-world countries, Canada and by extension Quebec do not, cannot and will not opt to change the status quo. Instead, we have politicians shouting that First Nations in Canada live in tax-free paradises. These same politicians who will gladly cry genuine tears over conditions in a refugee camp will act defensively and take a hard line every time a United Nations report comes out decrying Canada's actions with First Nations. "We treat our Natives far better than the States did," is the sorry excuse.

Therefore, cutting the essential-services programs that had provided much-needed employment is an old tactic. The Quebec government knows this tactic. This much is evident as members of that government, such as Chevrette, were part and parcel of past policies.

The Quebec government can also afford to sit back and watch cash-poor Natives crumble before the onslaught of people crying for jobs, for better water, a better economy and action now. They can smile while chiefs have to come hat-in-hand looking for succor for their people. Then Quebec can play one chief off against another as they have been attempting to do.

Divide and conquer. Encourage factionalism. We've seen it all before, so why should it surprise us?

Why should the actions of the chiefs surprise us? They know, as you or I know, that when someone is poor and is counting on jobs to make a better life they're willing to put up with b.s. After all, isn't that the premise that made sexual harassment possible in the workplace? Women earning less than men but unwilling to go on welfare when they lost their jobs?

Like women, Crees should realize that to change things, it's going to be a long hard and bitter fight but one Crees won't win unless they stand together and end these little back-room dealings.

Contents

NEWS

5 **Grumbling chiefs**
Feeling hurt in Cree lawsuit

5 **Close call with fire**
Forest fire skims Chisasibi

7 **Hydro too secretive**
Grand Council assails H-Q

7 **Priest's rocky past**
Old parish wanted him out

HYDRO

10 **Josie Sam Jr.**
The flooding

HIRING CREE

12 **Students concerned**
Outside consultants irksome

VIOLENCE

16 **Charles Esau**
Where violence comes from?

MY GRANDFATHER

25 **Remembering his dog team**

THE COVER

The Rupert River. Hydro-Quebec wants to dam it up. What would be the effects? See p. 10.

Cover Design: Sylvia Tennisco

rezNotes
by Ndiamon

I was sitting here in front of the keyboard for I don't know how long wondering which of my email buddies I would write to first. Then in a true eureka moment I thought I would reply to my emails, this one time, through *The Nation*. It'll save time and money for everybody and at the same time you, the lonely reader, can have, if you wish, a glimpse into a little thing I like to to call my life.

Dear soandso@hotmail.com,

Thanks for your kind email of tonight. I'm glad to hear things are well for you in both your family and sex lives. That's always the type of news I like to hear from people in my travels. I have to keep this short so I'll end by saying, keep up your good works and don't worry about that one dollar you mentioned. I will ask for it first thing tomorrow evening when I get up. Cheers and write back.

Dear mmmuhnhmm@sympatico.ca,

Always good to hear from you even though you always say the same thing. I know Jesus is the Lord and the end is near - you don't have to keep saying it. They were saying that long before we had email, buddy, so let's not loose hair over it. We are good people, most of the time, and good people go to Heaven to be with Jesus. We have nothing to fear. Thanks for all the laughs and your thoughtful prayers.

Dear mumble@sprint.ca,

I told you I would make it to the North. Here I am up North and I still haven't tasted goose yet. You were partly right though I did have a hard time. It took me two days to get here. I am only now, three days later, recovering from the ordeal. It was awful my trip, and I take full responsibility for it. I should have called the airline and confirmed everything. Because I didn't, I passed through almost every Cree village except my final destination, Nemaska. I ended up instead in Val d'Or on a Friday night. I know that sounds very exciting to you as you haven't yet had the pleasure. You really should go one time and visit its number-one Cree attraction, the legendary bar Chateau Louis. Anybody who's anybody ends up there even if they don't drink or have money. The best time to go is any Friday night if you want to... well... do as the Romans do. If you're interested in only its sociological significance then go on an off night. But that's never fun. Just depressing. Take for instance what took place the night previous. A group of women started to fight violently. I don't know for what good reason. It could have been men, money, Erica Kane finally winning her daytime Emmy or they were just bored because it wasn't Friday. Probably all of the above. No fights, thank heaven, broke out while I was there. Just the normal Friday night atmosphere. Everyone drinking nicely, laughing, talking, dancing and sneaking off to the toilet for God knows what.

I made it out late the next day in reasonably good shape and arrived in Chibougamau late. From there my friend Roger and I drove to Nemaska. It took us an impossibly long five hours for what's usually a three-hour trip. Maybe it's because I was doing the driving. Oh yes, I lost a bottle of cheap wine and a bottle of beer at the police station when someone opened my "suspicious looking" duffel bag. Suspicious I suppose because it was heavy and full of fragile stickers from the plane trip. The police deny any knowledge as to the whereabouts of my belongings. But they did, when I went to retrieve my bag, demand to speak to me alone. I asked if I was under arrest. They said no. I asked if they had a warrant. They said no. I told them Roger, who was with me, was my lawyer and I didn't feel like talking to them. Especially not alone. That's when I saw my open bag sitting in the station with a few articles of my dirty laundry strewn about. I felt violated. Did you know our cops get trained by the SQ? Scary isn't it? I mean, isn't that a bit like the Polish constabulary getting trained by the Gestapo?

Anyway... I'm rambling on a bit too long here so I'll say heil to you and we'll see each other soon and talk more about the goose-stepping up here.

Dear ****@aol.com

Thanks for the care you took in crafting your letter of this evening. It's refreshing to see an email without atrocious spelling, non-existent punctuation and paragraphs. I've mentioned this before to you and I'll say it again; email has the potential to revive the dying art of letter writing which the telephone and Canada Post almost destroyed. But still too many people don't bother to dot their I's and cross their T's when emailing. I know it makes me sound like some tight-ass grammar teacher for saying that but I always find it annoying. So, thank you again and please write back if you get this.

The Nation is published every two weeks
by Beesum Communications.

editorial board
Ernest Webb, William Nicholls, Alex Roslin

director of operations
Catherine Bainbridge

iyiyuu ayimuun editor
Brian Webb

photography
Neil Diamond

graphic design
Katerina Cizek , Sylvia Tennisco

director of finances
Linda Ludwick

director of marketing
Rhonda Sherwood

sales representative • Montreal
Michael Ryan 514.842.7509

sales representative • Val d'Or
Yvon Boisvert 819.874.6977

layout & production
E. Webb, B. Webb, A. Roslin, W. Nicholls, N. Diamond

administrative assistant
Deantha Edmunds

THANKS TO:
Air Creebec, Jeanie & Josie Sam Jr. and family.

Printed by Quebecor.

©All Rights Reserved

Publication Mail #0584584
ISSN #1206-2642

***THE NATION* IS A MEMBER OF:**
The James Bay Cree Communications Society
Circle of Aboriginal Controlled Publishers
Canadian Magazine Publishers Association
Quebec Community Newspaper Association
Canadian Community Newspaper Association
Les Hebdos Sélect du Québec

WHERE TO REACH US:
POSTMASTER:
5505 St-Laurent, #3018, Montreal, QC. H2T 1S6

Please address correspondence to:
The Nation Production Office
5678 Park Ave.
P.O. Box 48036
Montreal, QC H2V 4S8

Editorial
TeL: 514.272.3077 Fax: 514.278.9914

TOLL FREE: 1-877-814-9011

***The Nation* Head Office**
P.O. Box 151, Chisasibi, QC, J0M 1E0

e-mail: beesum@beesum-communications.com
on the web: www.beesum-communications.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS
Individuals & Institutions: $45
ABROAD: Individuals: $70 U.S.
ABROAD: Institutions: $85 U.S.

Payable to Beesum Communications

COASTAL CHIEFS BREAK RANKS ON FORESTRY

Chiefs from four coastal Cree communities have apparently complained to Guy Chevrette, Quebec's native-affairs minister, of being penalized because of the Cree forestry lawsuit.

Chief Kenny Loon of Mistissini said the complaints were apparently made at a meeting with the minister that took place during goose break.

Chevrette suspended talks on funding for Cree community projects and other issues in February due to the forestry lawsuit filed last summer. Cree officials have denounced Chevrette's move as "blackmail." But the chiefs of Waskaganish, Wemindji, Eastmain and Chisasibi - where there is no forestry - are grumbling about the forestry case.

All the chiefs are scheduled to meet Chevrette on May 28 to clear up the community-funding talks started under the memorandum-of-understanding (MOU) signed in 1995. The MOU money was supposed to meet unfulfilled promises made in the James Bay Agreement; a clause said court cases wouldn't affect the funds.

Loon said he could sympathize with the coastal chiefs because no MOU money means no needed projects or summer jobs: "People are already suffering." Loon has also met with Chevrette to discuss paving the highway from Chibougamau to Mistissini.

Tom Wadden, treasurer of Wemindji, said he can understand the southern communities' concerns over forestry. "What affects one community affects us all," said Wadden. He worried, though, Quebec is getting a mixed message from the Cree communities. He cited the Waswanipi band asking for money for a sawmill while Crees take a stand against forestry.

Wadden worried about Wemindji's own problems, like town drainage, paving the roads (the sand on the roads is causing respiratory problems) and waste disposal - for which there is no funding.

Waswanipi Chief John Kitchen hoped the other chiefs don't decide to pull out of the forestry case. He recalled that all nine Cree communities agreed to support each other. Kitchen said his impression of the forestry community tour - held to get a mandate for the court action - was that people were happy they were finally going to "seek answers and benefits. People were saying to go ahead (with the court case)."

Kitchen put the blame for the confusion on Quebec's doorstep. "What Quebec did (suspending the MOU funding) was blackmail. It's not right. They agreed to fund these things. Court cases shouldn't affect the MOU," he said. Kitchen said the Cree camp is in conflict over short-term and long-term visions and needs: "Things are going to be tough. It's going to be a long summer." He didn't rule out Waswanipi going after Quebec alone if it had to. "An 84-year-old woman came up to me the other day and she told me she'll be on a forestry blockade if it happens," he said.

Nemaska Chief George Wapachee said the suspension of the MOU funds is a worry for Nemaska too, but he's not blind to Quebec's colonialist attitude. "The divide-and-conquer, it's always there. We have to make sure it doesn't blind us. As chiefs we're not oblivious to that."

by William Nicholls

Forest fire threatens Chisasibi

by Ernest Webb

As a hot south wind blew, vehicles lined the highway leading into Chisasibi. People lined the road to watch a forest fire threatening to approach Chisasibi.

The fire had jumped a fire break that was cut in previous years during another dry summer. Chisasibi residents were on standby Sunday, May 16, as they watched the fire make its way towards the river.

The fire started on the south side of the highway at Km 10, where the old dump was. People going to church reported seeing smoke in the general direction of where the fire had started.

A south wind was blowing which pushed the fire towards the highway and river. By noon it had jumped the highway and fire break.

Officials were on the scene to close off the highway and keep people at a safe distance from the fire.

The local fire truck was pumping water whereever it had access.

There were fears that the fire would approach Chisasibi. At one point bulldozers were called in to clear another fire break. They were soon called off. The fire had burned all day into the night.

Asked whether they were going to pump water from the lakes and ponds, an band public-safety official said they were told it was going to rain at 10 p.m.

I looked at my watch, it said 8:30, I looked up at the sky, It was clear. I looked at the fire, It was big.

Everyone commented on how nice the wood will be for firewood in a couple of years: "We won't have to go far for firewood." It was already 10 p.m. and still no sign of rain. By 11 p.m. the first few drops fell, by 11:30 the rain snuffed out the fire and as if on cue, everyone went home.

In a radio interview the following day, a band public-safety officer said the cause of the fire was a cigarette.

Overhunting

Letter to *The Nation*:

I read the editorial by an anonymous contributor dealing with overhunting by some people, etc. (May 21). Well, first of all, I would like to say this to the writer: Hats off to you! I was so glad to see a young person having the guts to bring forth an issue that needs to be addressed. I wish more young people would take notice and voice their true opinions.

Overhunting is hurting us and I am not talking about the trappers who life off the land; just like the writer, it bugs me a great deal when people abuse their rights. Rights and privileges come with responsibility. I am not even going to pretend that I am a hunter, but even I know that you must leave enough for replenishment. Abusive and excessive hunting is disrespectful toward our trappers. These people already have enough to worry about with all the development happening on their traplines. They should not have to worry about greed from their own people.

I am not, and neither is the writer, anti-Cree. If anything, we are strongly pro-Cree. The issue needs to be addressed because more and more people are beginning to show a lack of respect for the animals. I remember stories about bad luck and hard times being brought to those who do not respect the favours given to them by the animals. What is to happen to us if, as a society, we lose this respect? And no, I do not think we should have the governments regulate hunting because I feel this is a Cree issue and, besides, Quebec and Ottawa are just a bit too present in our daily lives already.

As a society, we need to question our values, a sort of refreshment on where we are from and where we want to go. I don't think we can watch any longer the growing incursions in our lands and hope they will go away. We have to live with them, but that does not mean we must give in easily and forget where we are from. Our trappers represent our link with our past and we must keep this link strong and protect them. By ignoring our traditional values, we will grow weaker and become mere signatories to all sorts of agreements in the hopes that we obtain a few bucks and some jobs as labourers here and there. As it is now, we are too busy looking outside and not busy enough looking inside, which means we ignore these issues and others like economic development, education and the like. If we keep looking outwards, the governments keep us dependent because we wait for them to help us. We have some tools; let's start using them. Maybe when Ottawa and Quebec finally live up to their obligations, we can use those extra tools as a step toward finally becoming autonomous because we will have begun building already. However, a society that wants to grow needs to question itself constantly and the best people to question are those living the reality.

So, to this young person, I congratulate you and tell you that I am extremely proud of you. Stand your ground and, as you said, sooner or later, you will be taking charge. I just hope that, until comes that time, we will have learned a thing or two and remembered even more.

Andy Baribeau, Mistissini

Taking diabetes in hand

Letter to *The Nation*:

In response to Alex Roslin's recent article

continued on page 21

Le Baron
outdoor products ltd
8601 St-Laurent blvd, Montreal
(south of Metropolitain blvd)
(514) 381-4231
FISHING GPS - FISH FINDERS
CAMPING CLOTHING
HIKING ARCHERY

CAMP TRAILS
Megalith 55
• Horseshoe shaped internal frame • Molded back with lumbar pad and side support • Padded waist belt • Top loading, with a spindrift collar • Separate clamshell opening bottom compartment and two side pockets with wrap over side to side zippers • Cap.: 55 l. • Ice axe loop • Buckle strap in the middle • 420 high-density nylon top, PVC bottom • Colours: Forest, Midnight, Chill
Special! $ 44.94

GARMIN GPS 12XL
• PhaseTrac 12™, receiver tracks and uses up to 12 individual satellites • Innovative TracBack™ function turns you track log into an instant breadcrumb trail so you quickly navigate back home • User-definable map datums and UTM grids let you customize the data • User-friendly rocker - keypad system allows room for a large backlit display with easy-to-read characters and full-featured graphic plotting • Position averaging feature helps reduce the effects of Selective Availability • Large memory holds 500 waypoints or 20 routes of up to 30 waypoints each • Includes: 4 AA batteries, user's manual, Wrist strap, Quick reference guide, Carrying case
CODE: 010-00138-00 Special! $ 385.94

FALL CATALOGUE
AVAILABLE MAY '99
with Firearms, Ammo, Scopes, Clothing etc.
Send $2.00 for handling with your name and address to:
Le Baron P.O.BOX 648, Station Youville, Montreal, Que. H2P 2W3

oops!!!

This issue of the Learning Circle should be dated June 1999, rather than January 1999.

We apologize for the error.

H-Q SLAMMED FOR SECRECY ON DAM SAFETY

The Grand Council of the Crees has blasted Hydro-Quebec for its secrecy on dam-safety issues and emergency plans.

"I don't have any information on dam safety. What are the measures to protect people living downstream from the dams?" asked Bill Namagoose, executive director of the Grand Council.

"How would they get people out of the area? Is there an evacuation plan for Chisasibi? I don't know of any."

Namagoose criticized Hydro's refusal to provide Crees with adequate information on dam security and emergency measures since work started on the dams in the mid-1970s.

"It's 20 years of neglect. If there was an incident in the Chisasibi area, Hydro would be held for criminal negligence," he vowed.

As an example of the lack of communication, Namagoose cited a violent Oct. 1983 storm that caused millions of dollars in damage to Hydro's La Grande dam complex.

Cree officials were never told of the storm and Hydro never disclosed the storm damage to the public. The storm exposed apparent flaws in the construction and design of Hydro's dams and dikes, according to internal utility reports obtained by *The Nation*.

Hydro also found that its calculations of how big waves could get in the reservoirs were off, the reports say. The miscalculations caused the utility to underestimate wave size.

"Everybody would be concerned if there was a miscalculation," said Namagoose. "That is evidence of bad planning. What other defects a re there in the system?"

Hydro's facilities were supposed to be able to handle 100 km/h winds, according to the internal utility reports. But the Oct. 1983 storm, with winds of only 40 to 60 km/h, still caused severe damage. Hydro spent $100 million repairing and strengthening its facilities.

Crees in Chisasibi and other downstream communities started expressing fears about the dams after the devastating 1996 flood disaster in the Saguenay region.

H-Q says it won't release emergency plans for security reasons and because it doesn't want to cause a panic. Officials also said the utility has started talking with one community, Chisasibi, about emergency planning.

But Cree legal advisors say H-Q has actually become more secretive in recent years. They say previously public Hydro documents are now stamped secret under the pretext that the documents are commercial secrets, now that competition is being introduced into North America's energy markets.

It isn't clear what emergency studies Hydro does have. After an access-to-information request, Hydro sent heavily censored emergency studies that include maps of areas that would be flooded in a dam breach. But the studies are not full emergency plans.

One 1989 study shows a flood of water would reach Chisasibi 2 hours and 14 minutes after a breach at LG-2. The water level at Chisasibi would eventually reach 25 metres above sea level as the reservoir empties. Another 1987 study shows a breach at LG-4 taking out LG-3, LG-2 and LG-1, with an even bigger flood of water hitting Chisasibi. This study was later deemed "unrealistic" and replaced by a 1998 study of a breach starting at LA-2, taking out facilities downriver. No flood maps are included in this later study.

by Alex Roslin

Bill Presnail's rocky past

The Anglican Church should never have sent William Presnail to Waswanipi to be the community's priest, say residents of two Lower North Shore villages where Presnail was rector for nine years.

Presnail, 45, was charged April 28 with sexually assaulting a minor - a 16-year-old boy - in Chapais. Presnail has pled not guilty.

He was Waswanipi's Anglican priest for a little under a year until being removed from the job after complaints from residents about his personality and style.

The same type of complaints about his style got Presnail removed from his previous priestly posting in the Lower North Shore. Residents said they were surprised the church had assigned Presnail to another parish after the problems they had experienced.

Presnail was never charged with any sexual offenses stemming from his time in the Lower North Shore.

> **"When I heard he was put in a northern community, it struck me right away: why did they let him go there?"**
> *-Mayor Lionel Roberts*

But many people thought he was "very arrogant" and "didn't get along very well with his parishioners," said Lionel Roberts, mayor of Bonne Esperance, a municipality that covers three tiny fishing villages in eastern Quebec.

Presnail was the priest in two of the villages - St. Paul's River and Old Fort Bay.

"When I heard he was put in a northern community, it struck me right away: why did they let him go there?" said Roberts.

"Most of the people were disgusted with his behaviour in the community," he said. "Quite frankly, we didn't want him around."

Presnail was eventually removed from his job in Bonne Esperance by Bishop Bruce Stavert of the local Duplessis diocese. After he was removed, Presnail refused to leave the area, staying on to coach a boys' hockey team.

continued on page 9

The James Bay Cree Telephone Book - Connecting 25,000 James Bay Cree all year long.
New! Now includes numbers from the West Coast James Bay Cree Communities in Ontario.

The James Bay Cree Telephone Book has become so well-used and popular that other Cree Communities are joining! This year, the Cree communities on the West Coast of James Bay will also be listed, allowing friends, family and businesses to stay in touch into the new millenium. The year 2000 James Bay Cree Telephone Book will ***be the only telephone directory to link the 25,000 Cree of James Bay.***

How does the James Bay Cree Telephone Book work?

- ***Like other telephone books :*** but this one is made particularly for our region.
- ***It is a useful directory :*** now linking all the Cree communities in both Ontario and Quebec.
- ***Divided into three sections :*** white pages for complete community listings, yellow pages for businesses in and around James Bay that want to advertise their products and services, and blue pages for Cree entities, and government departments wishing to make themselves accessible to the people they serve.
- ***Separated in an easy-to-find index :*** Communities are listed separately, and divided into two main groups : one for the West Coast and one for the East Coast.
- ***Everyone gets a free listing :*** All homes, businesses and entities in James Bay Cree communities (in both Quebec and Ontario) get a free listing in the white pages.
- ***The telephone books*** are then distributed free of charge to everyone in the Cree communities.
- ***It's that simple!***

We need your help in making this year's telephone book complete!
Please verify your name and telephone number in last year's book. If it was wrong, missing, or if it has changed since last year, please call Deantha Edmunds at *The Nation* TOLL-FREE at : 1-877-814-9011
between 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday, or fill in the following :

Name : _____
Organization *(if applicable)* : _____
Telephone number *(with area code)* : _____
This listing : Is new ☐ Was missing from last year's book ☐
Was wrong in last year's book ☐
Fax *(if applicable)* : _____
Full address : _____
_____

Please fax to : Deantha Edmunds at 514-278-9144
Or mail to : The James Bay Cree Telephone Book
C/O The Nation
5505 Blvd. St. Laurent, Suite 3018
Montreal QC H2T 1S6
Or email to : beesum@beesum-communications.com

Or call TOLL-FREE at 1-877-814-9011
between 10am to 5pm weekdays (please ask for Deantha Edmunds).

The James Bay Cree Telephone Book • Keeping us in touch into the new millenium

Crazy Horse: the man, the legend

Crazy Horse
by Larry McMurtry
Penguin: Toronto, 1999

Crazy Horse - the very name still has power after all these years. It's been over 120 years since he was murdered at Fort Robinson in Nebraska.

A dream prophecy said the only way Crazy Horse could be killed was if his own people, the Sioux, held his arms while he was being killed.

While there are differing stories of his death, all agreed that "Little Big Man tried to hold him, that many were ready to shoot him, that other Indians grabbed him, that Private Gentles stabbed him..."

His death made him a myth, a symbol for those who follow the old ways, the traditions and culture. He is a symbol today for those who fight for what they believe in.

In the book *Crazy Horse*, it is recognized he is a legend, but author Larry McMurtry attempts to look at Crazy Horse, the man, and how he became what he represents today.

In looking at Crazy Horse you see a loner who avoided the white people most of his life. He was forever wandering away from the camps and people of his own tribe. Not much is known about him but there wouldn't be in any case. Crazy Horse lived the life of a warrior, raiding and hunting on the central plains.

It wasn't until the settlers started to encroach on Sioux territory that Crazy Horse came to the fore as a "determined resister whose courage and leadership was a factor in many battles."

He was a "Shirt-wearer," a person of high honour who provided help to the weak and helpless ones of the tribe.

Definitely an interesting book that appeals to many. It kept disappearing on me around the office as I was trying to read it.

The publisher, Penguin, can be reached at (416) 925-2249.

BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS

"He was really rude sometimes. We had to ask him to leave because he was causing quite a stir."
-Old Fort Bay resident

PHOTO COURTESY OF LE SENTINELLE AND THE SURETE DU QUEBEC

William Presnail, former Waswanipi priest.

continued from page 5

He also ran for mayor against Roberts - a race that Roberts won by a 2-1 margin.

Roberts said local residents complained to the Anglican church for two years about Presnail before he was finally removed.

Bishop Stavert acknowledged that Presnail "was not necessaily popular with everybody," but he denied that Presnail left his old parish in difficult circumstances.

"It was a very isolated parish. He needed a change of scenery. He wasn't laid off or fired," Stavert said.

But an Anglican parish member in St. Paul's River (population 400) said the bishop "took a long time" to get Presnail out. She said Presnail should have never gotten another posting in a remote community.

"We didn't think anybody should go through what we went through. We didn't agree with the posting (to Waswanipi)," said the parishioner, who asked for anonymity because she feared being harassed.

"If he had been put in a big city, someone would have been able to keep an eye on him. The worst scenario was what he was put back into. People should have been more aware."

A resident of Old Fort Bay - population 300 - described Presnail as an "intelligent, loud and persuasive" man who got a lot of people to go to church for the first time.

But Presnail had another side too, she claimed. "Looking back, I wonder if it was all a fake performance or real. He was really rude sometimes. We had to ask him to leave because he was causing quite a stir."

She said that, because of Presnail's style, many parents didn't like him hanging around with their kids as much as he did.

Bishop Caleb Lawrence of the Moosonee diocese, which covers Waswanipi, is the man who brought Presnail to a Cree community. Lawrence said he checked Presnail out with other priests and the police before sending him to Waswanipi.

"My understanding was he had had a difficult ministry, but he had received some help," Lawrence said. He explained the difficulties in Bonne Esperance as related to "isolation" and "the distress of the death of a close family member."

Lawrence said he asked Presnail to resign as rector in Waswanipi in Feb. 1998 after community complaints about his "standard of performance." He said the complaints were not related to sexually inappropriate behaviour.

Lawrence said Presnail had concentrated too much of his time on coaching a boys' hockey team, the Hawks. Presnail was also criticized for swearing in front of kids and "severe verbal altercations with members of the community," Lawrence said.

Waswanipi's chief of police, Tommy Grant, said the Sûreté du Québec major-crimes unit planned to visit the community to interview other potential sexual-assault victims.

Grant also said Presnail is facing another charge dating from the spring of 1998 of refusing to take a breathalyzer test, after a Waswanipi police officer spotted him driving erratically. Grant said Presnail appeared to be under the influence of alcohol.

Presnail couldn't be reached for comment.

BY ALEX ROSLIN

Lost forever

Interview with Josie Sam Jr. BY ERNEST WEBB

PHOTOS BY ERNEST WEBB

Josie with his son, Billy.

My family and I were guests in Josie Sam Jr.'s hunting area during goose break. On one of our trips on the reservoir Josie pointed out the spot where they had camped. Instead of pointing off in the distance, Josie pointed down. We floated right over their old camp. Thanks to Josie and Janie for their hospitality and the best Biiyaow-Banicake.

We asked Josie about the place he was raised and how it has changed. Now, Hydro-Quebec wants to dam the Rupert and other rivers in Cree areas. We asked Josie about the effects.

***The Nation*: What is your name and age?**

My name is Josie Sam Jr. and I'm 59 years old.

Were you raised on the hunting grounds?

Yes, that is where I was raised.

Were you sent to school also?

Yes, I was in school. I wasn't in school too long, till I was 10 years old.

Did you live with your dad?

Yes, with my dad, on the river, where he used to hunt. Where I showed you. "Where we used to live," I said.

Where was the area he used to hunt?

From where LG-1 is to around the LG-2 area is where my father hunted.

When you first heard that they were going to dam, what did you think? Did you think that it could be done?

I thought that maybe they wouldn't be able to do it. I didn't think things would be so fast. Suddenly it was done.

Where you showed us, where you're winter camp was, is that where your family was all the time?

Yes, that is where we used to be all the time.

When was that flooded?

When they finished LG-1, is when it was flooded. Even as they finished LG-2, the waters were already rising.

Even before they closed LG-1?

Yes, I guess they opened (and closed the gates up) at LG-2. That sent a lot of water down.

You can't stay next to the water anymore?

Yes, you can't stay due to what they did; a lot has been destroyed. My dad and myself got our living from the river. He trapped furs there, fish. Now we can't eat fish from there.

Do animals use the river well?

Since they worked on the river, I don't think the animals can use it well. It isn't the way it used to be. Everything was plentiful, animals that were hunted. Today it's as if there's none, since the flooding. Maybe later it will be like it was before. But not now.

Do you think more dams should be built? When they talk about the money that can be had from it...

I don't think they should, because it will destroy even more of where Crees live from. My dad wasn't too concerned with money; he just got his living from the land.

What about the children growing up today - what would you tell them about the river?

I would tell them the way it was before, that the river was beautiful. It is used in many ways. We used it as our highway. In the winter also, we would walk it. Today, we can't walk on it. Nobody ever walks there anymore. You were able to hunt on it as you made your way down the river.

It doesn't seem like a river anymore?

No, not where we are. It seems like a very large lake now.

What if a time comes that they will find a way to make electricity and the dams aren't needed any more - do you think the land would be used again?

I don't know. I don't know if it can be done. The earth that is under water floats up in clumps. That is what we don't know about. It is lost forever.

Thank you.

ᑲ ᐅᓴᓕᑎᒥᓐᓄᓇᓗᓴᓐ

ᓚᓪ ᓴᓐ ᓄᓇᓕᓴ ᐊᑎ ᐊᓕᒥᑦ

ᓚᓪ ᓴᓐ ᓄᓇᓕᓴ ᓂᑎᓯᓂᖅᓯᓗᓴ. 59 ᓂᑎᓐᑎᐅᓕᓯᓗᓴ. ᐊᒋᑦ ᐊᓂᑦ ᓂᑐᐃᑦᓴᓐᖏᑦ ᑲ ᐅᓪᓗ ᐱᒋᓂᒋᔭᐅᓕᖅᓴ. ᑭᓪᓕ ᑲ ᐃᓐᓴᑦᑐᐅᒋᔭᐅᓕᖅᓴᖏᑦ. ᑎᓪᓗ ᒥᑦᑐᑐᐅᓕᓯᓗᓴ ᐱᖓ ᓚᐃ ᑲ ᓴᓪᓕᐊᓂᖅᓴ ᐃᓐᓴᑦᑐᐅᒋᔭᐅᓕᖅᓴᖏᑦ, ᓴᓐ ᓂᒋ ᓂ ᐅᓪᓗ ᐃᓐᓴᑦᑐᐅᒋᔭᐅᓕᖅᓴᖏᑦ. ᓄᓐᑦᐃ ᑭᓪᓕ ᑲ ᐃᑎᒋᓴ, ᐊᒋᑦ ᑲᑎ ᐃᓐᓴᑦᑐᐅᒋᔭᐅᓕᖅᓴᖏᑦ. ᐊᓂᑦ ᐊᒋᑦ ᐊᓂᑦ ᑲᑎ ᐃᓐᓴᑦᑐᐅᒋᔭᐅᓕᖅᓴᖏᑦ. ᐊᒋ

Free advice

from the Cree Student Association of Greater Montreal

Everyone agrees we should "hire Cree." But why don't the Cree entities do it? What are the costs of not hiring Cree? These issues are addressed from the students' perspective in this article, which generated a lot of discussion in the Cree entities when it was passed around last fall. The article asks what the future holds for students when they graduate, especially if Cree entities won't give them a chance and prefer hiring outside consultants. The Board of Compensation is reviewing the students' concerns and proposals.

BY KATHY SHECAPIO, STELLA LAMEBOY and LILLIAN BRIEN

This is to address an issue that rests on the minds of several post-secondary students. For several years now, we have witnessed an enormous dependence on consultants to help us organize our entities and consequently ourselves as First Nations.

We do not question that there is a need for professional help. What worries students is how our entities and organizations regularly engage consultants without prior assessment of the competencies that are readily available in our Cree labour market.

We would like to point out that we do not wish to lay blame on anyone, as such an approach is not constructive and seldom leads to a worthwhile solution. This note is merely to share some ideas on how we can better utilitize our Cree human resources.

First, let's begin by outlining some of the problems that can result from a lack of usage of our Cree human resources. An illustration and an analysis of its full impact are needed to properly assess the situation. (Please note that this is simply an approximate evaluation based on what our acquired knowledge allows us to analyze. Certainly, there is a need to study the problem further.)

In this section, we begin by addressing the problems from the students' point of view. We will also look at this picture from the social, economic, cultural, political and financial points of view. This approach will allow us to better explain the negative consequences of the lack of usage of students and graduates. Then we will examine certain options which all Cree entities and organizations can further consider.

For the student:

Most students leave the comfort and security of their homes and families in their desire to acquire a higher education and gain knowledge that will contribute to the betterment of the Cree Nation. They often make sacrifices such as neglecting their social life, facing the cultural shock of living in the south, financial difficulties (especially single-parent students), isolation and loneliness. Some can only imagine the psychological and physical effects of intensive studies such as all-night study and writing sessions.

Others know exactly what it is like to forcibly isolate yourself in order to connect with the world of intense academic learning. There is usually no or little interaction with other human beings for hours and/or days. On the positive side, some students come out with greater self-discipline, a stronger character and a university degree.

On the negative side, they sometimes perceive their education as being devalued when they witness consultants being hired over them for work that they are capable of doing. The Cree students' investment in their education and their potential are wasted if they cannot practice what they learned.

The social impact:

We are witnessing a change in the values of Cree society. There is a renewed hope in the benefits of education. Until recently, we looked at institutions as the enemy of everything that is Indian. Now, we look at them as a tool of empowerment that leads to self-determination. Here the problem lies be-

tween society's hopes and dreams and the reality of human-resource management practices in the Cree Nation.

If we keep assigning students to demeaning tasks that are not related to their field of study, we are wasting their knowledge and are de-motivating resourceful individuals.

This inevitably conveys mixed messages from the Cree entities to Cree students as to the value of higher education, career orientation and the value of relevant work experience.

"If we keep assigning students to demeaning tasks that are not related to their field of study, we are wasting their knowledge and are de-motivating resourceful individuals."

The economic impact:

When Cree entities constantly outsource certain tasks and work, they also invest in the non-Cree society's economy. When our people do not have buying power that comes from gainful income, they cannot help generate a spin-off in our local or regional economies. In short, it does not allow for our people to become independent from the system.

Canada and Quebec understood that the only way they can compete in a global economy is to invest in their human resources. This is their competitive instrument: productivity. If we invest in our people, we can help them gain more skills that will eventually lead them to achieve higher productivity levels.

Motivated workers are the ones who produce the most. Give a student the challenge and watch the results of your investments. This can be referred to as return on investment.

The cultural impact:

Different cultures have different values. We all know that we regularly experience internal conflicts when we deal with different societies' cultures. We do not necessarily share the same points of view. When we do, it is not always for the same reasons. It is the same where consultants are concerned.

They see matters from a perspective of their cultural values. This is normal. We do the same. There is also no better reward than when we can get one to understand our culture and values.

The problem is that the recommendations of consultants may clash with our culture and our values.

Who can better provide and recommend solutions than someone who has gained the necessary knowledge to analyze problems within a certain cultural context than someone who happens to be a student with the same cultural background and understandings as the Cree client?

"The students are informed and are very critical. They see the inconsistencies in what is being said and what is actually being done."

The political impact:

How often have we heard the phrase: "Hire Cree"? Our leaders promote it and create a vision. Consequently, this vision creates expectations. When their offices fail to carry this through, the leaders begin to lose credibility in the eyes of the Cree Nation. Once you lose trust of the people, it is often difficult to get it back. The students are informed and are very critical. They see the inconsistencies in what is being said and what is actually being done.

The financial impact:

How many students could have been hired if there had not been so much spent on consultants? Large amounts are being shuffled out of the Cree economy as payment to consultants. This hurts our organizations in the long-term. When the consultant leaves, the competency and the expertise may also be lost to the Crees. Cree students stay and seek advancement from within the Cree Nation.

The monies that are invested on a student/graduate can be absorbed later on from his or her increased productivity level. Your investment becomes your added value to the Cree Nation. A good marketing strategy for your company.

IDEAS FOR CHANGE

This illustrates the effects of management decisions on the surrounding environment. The interaction between the various components of the environment affect Cree entities and organizations in return. The negative effects of constant outsourcing become a vicious circle and the situation may deteriorate before it improves if we do not adopt alternate solutions to organizational problems. The following are some ideas and suggestions for change.

Creation of a data bank:

A student employment agency would be able to gather background information on the skills and knowledge of students and graduates which would be readily available as part of the Cree labour market. Such a system or set-up would also be able to manage summer student placements with respect to the needs of the organizations and interests of the students. It could also conduct permanent job placements for graduates. Counseling and orientation services could also be provided and include career orientation for those students seeking advancement within the Cree Nation work force.

Another possibility is for students and graduates to go internationally to gain various and relevant work experience. The possibilities are endless.

Mentoring:

When an organization must rely on outside professional help, we could assign a student to work with the consultant. This is also an efficient practical learning experience for all Cree human resources.

Another approach could be, when we have positions that are filled by Cree people, to assign a student to an appropriate mentor. This could be a good and productive learning experience for both. Students and new graduates need relevant work experience where they can apply what they have learned. Such a work opportunity must be created by the political, administrative and business leadership of the Cree world.

Thank you for having read and considered these ideas.

Wachiya

We offer you
Restaurants• Hotels•
Curling 4 sheets
of ice for your
sports• Ball Fields•
Arenas

Ville d'Amos

Welcome• Bienvenue
Come and visit our Town
you will be the most Welcome
Tel.:(819) 732-3254
Fax:(819) 727-9792

ᐊᔨᓂᐊᒥᑦᑕᐃᓕᓐ

MONUMENTS AMOS Inc.

Experience serving
the Cree communities.
Our granite headstones can be personally
designed and written in Cree.

tel.: 1-819-732-2283
fax: 1-819-732-7077

Owner: Marcel Labonté

Monuments Amos Enr.
4471 Route 11 Sud
Amos, Quebec
J9T 3A1

ᓇᓐᑐᑎᒪᑦ ᑲᓂᓐᒪᒪᑦ

Les Maisons Funéraires
BLAIS
INC.

23 years serving the Cree communities
Personalized care and excellent service
is our promise to you.
582 Ave. Centrale, Val d'Or, J9P 1P8

1-800-380-3321

Owners: Reina Blais, Renald Blais, Rémi Blais

HÔTEL DES ESKERS INC
Jean-Paul Veilleux
Directeur général

Chato

•46 rooms
• 7 reception rooms
10 @ 500 persons
• Downtown
• Completely Renovated

New Concept
• Café A.I.V. Houtte
• Café Internet
• Complete meals
• Private room

201, avenue Authier, Amos (Québec) J9T 1W1
Tél.: (819) 732-5386 • 1-888-686-5386 • Fax: (819) 732-0455

Wachiya

MAG MUSIC

82 ,1ère Ave.Est Amos J9T 4B2
1-800-207-3898
Tél.:819-732-7918 Fax:819-732-8699
CD. Video. Western Music. Ect.
AT THE SHOPPING CENTER DOWN TOWN
C.D.O.'S Accepted.

Harricana Aventures

WACHIYA

211 PRINCIPALE SUD
AMOS, QUEBEC ,J9T 2J5
Call Toll Free: 1-888-550- AMOS (2667)
C.O.D.'S Accepted

YAMAHA YAMAHA YAMAHA

Michel Larivière

GRIZZLY
VTT YAMAHA

30 HP YAMAHA

EF 2600X

Sylvain Boudreau

Special Finance Rate up to 60 months • Subject to YMCF Credit Approval

A PEOPLE WITHOUT VISION WILL PERISH

Open letter to Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come and the Cree leadership,

I have wanted to express my sincerest appreciation for having had the opportunity to work with each of you during my term as a Council/Board member for Mistissini these past two years. I especially wanted to thank the community members of Mistissini for having me serve them. I shall always hold our friendship and co-working relationship with the greatest respect.

I carry with me many memories of the past few years' experiences and I wanted to share some personal thoughts on some of the issues before us. In 1995, we chose to take to task the government of Quebec on many unresolved community service issues. At that time I expressed my disagreement to the pursued strategy. I expressed then my concern that we were only once again given "promises" with no real guarantees.

Kenny Blacksmith.

Since then the Quebec government has shown over time its true intention to hold our Cree Nation hostage in the address of important matters for our communities.

I am saddened to see the continued pursuit of this strategy which has so far consisted of an empty process. I fail to understand the rationale behind this and cannot, as a Cree member accept this present lack of direction on these issues and others. We have said one time or other that a people without vision will perish. I hope we take this seriously and start doing something about the way we now govern ourselves. What is clear is old-school political thinking is not consistent with the present times and real change must prevail.

Our Cree Nation, as a community or as one Nation, must hold of the highest value moral honesty and integrity in every aspect of self-government, whether in community financial management or other. Strong principles must be upheld to guide us in serving our people. If one chooses to serve in community leadership or regional leadership, then one should be honest about one's personal motives in the choice made and be held fully responsible and accountable. Attempting to do too much will always result in someone losing out. The question will always remain as to who is benefiting?

Quebec or corporate structures will always pursue their own objectives to divide us. We are clearly seeing more of this these days. Hydro-Quebec's proposed potential projects are becoming a real test on Cree unity, on Cree political strength and direction. Will our Cree Nation opt for the short-term gain because the so-called "window of opportunity" is being pressured on us? Will our people have an opportunity to choose between new projects and the protection of a way of life on the land? Or will we be told after the fact that an agreement has been reached.

What about our Cree Nation stand on forestry issues and the legal process which our people mandated the leadership to seek and protect Cree rights and the way of life on the land? Minister Guy Chevrette has clearly "blackmailed" the Cree leadership by threatening not to pursue issues related to the 1995 MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) all because of the forestry case. How long will we tolerate such attitudes?

I believe the patience is fast wearing thin at the grassroots level on the way the leadership has handled the PQ government's total lack of respect and recognition of the Cree Nation rights. We have to change the circumstances before us and create a better situation for our people and communities.

We cannot allow the PQ to walk all over the Cree Nation and scatter them as they are attempting to do.

I strongly believe our people will have to be more involved in the decision-making process and not just a select few. I believe we must stand back and assess our community strategy in achieving our community needs. Building projects based on promised dollars will always catch up and cause undue pressure and means to achieve projects. We only have to look at our communities and see empty shells of unfinished projects. Who bears the responsibility? I believe we must take great care in these matters.

The Quebec leadership is quietly and effectively pursuing its own agenda on many fronts and the Cree Nation must likewise move quickly to pursue issues which will ultimately affect our future. Premier Bouchard has clearly expressed in a public forum that PQ supporters should be prepared for another referendum as early as spring in the year 2000. Jean Charest has also sounded warnings to this effect. Where is the Cree leadership on these issues?

Quebec or corporate structures will always pursue their own objectives to divide us.

My hopes and prayers are thus that we will always be united, strong and with a clear vision be fully committed and ready to achieve our Nation's hopes for its future; and in these hopes I am calling on all community members to strongly voice their concerns and interests on these issues and others.

We must stand united in all fronts as we continue to take to task the government on Cree rights. We cannot allow the PQ to walk all over the Cree Nation and scatter them as they are attempting to do. People must call on the Grand Chief, Chief and Councils, and understand exactly what is the status of all issues - what is the common Cree position on these issues. Know your rights and exercise them to achieve that which is good and right for our Cree Nation.

So once again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to work with each of you and may our loving Father continue to be with you, guide you and bless our Cree Nation.

BY KENNY BLACKSMITH

NOW AVAILABLE !

AIR CREEBEC

FLY AND GET FREE GIFTS

CALL YOUR LOCAL AGENT

OR

1-800-567-6567

Thoughts of violence

Violence is all around us. But where did we learn violent behaviour? And how do we overcome it. **BY CHARLES ESAU**

Violence is an issue that is having negative effects on us as a community in Waskaganish, with innocent children. The statement I wish to make is that the negative effect this has on the people of our community will not be resolved unless we pass a zero-tolerance by-law with a group effort.

Violence is seen on TV - one source of the violence. The verbal abuse towards another human being, especially children, will be an effect. With physical abuse the bruise will go away, but not the scars of emotional and mental abuse. The bruise or physical harm is passed on with the internal anger. Most cases brought into the courts are alcohol-related crimes. This brings us to the violent behaviour that a drunk individual shows only when they are intoxicated.

Silence itself is promoting violence, like not getting involved when witnessing a fight in the neighbourhood. We can get involved indirectly by calling the police. The wrestling moves or martial arts moves and boxing that young people practice on each other. The gang or clique you belong to, peer pressure and wanting to belong makes it hard on others. Last year's minutes of the Annual General Assembly mentioned a dog that had a knife still stuck in its throat. Another dog was beaten to death while it was tied up. These are some incidents that

have occurred in the community. Another form of violence is gossip that really hurts us. Violence is all around us whether we see it or hear it; we are aware it is there.

Where did these individuals learn this violent behaviour? As the generations of our people evolve, so do the social patterns and behaviours. We are confronted with more changes faster than ever from that traditional lifestyle of our grandparents' generation. We need to adapt the wants and needs of our community. You can ask, do we really need this or do we want that? That is, the household items, computer, Internet, computer games, Nintendo, satellite dishes with 100 channels, VCR, movies and the television set. All these modern technologies are useful, but we also have to monitor the negative impacts.

I reflect back on the trip this spring in April. My sister Susan and I were on the way to Albuquerque, New Mexico, by van and witnessing the effects of a violent crime indirectly, driving through the city of Denver, Colorado. We heard on the radio news of a violent shooting at a high school on the radio. The traffic was at a stand-still; it took us three to four hours to get from one end of the city the size of Montreal to the other. People were rushing about either to get home or to get somewhere to find out whether it was their children or what was really going on.

On the radio the news of the terrible tragedy of two youth who shot and killed 12 young people and an adult in a shooting rampage. They had used automatic weapons and bombs in a high school in Littleton, Colorado, at about 11:30 a.m., and the traffic was quite congested for the time of day, about 2-3 p.m. The city called of all events that were to be held that day.

I kept getting mixed messages in the stories covered in the media that week following the Littleton tragedy. There were headlines, cover stories and news clips throughout that week about the tragic incident that were continuous. Meanwhile, the president of the United States of America and the military went about the business of bombing Kosovo. Along the interstate highway, we saw caravans of army trucks heading to a major base as we reached Colorado. All this was on radio and television. What kind of message are we receiving, and what effect does it have on the youth? The following week there was another shooting in the same manner in another high school in Alberta.

Deep down these children were hurt from the destructive behaviours of other members in society. After the transference over the years of taunting, humiliation and put-downs by their peers, these young people decided to retaliate in a destructive manner that impacted us as members of the global society who saw it on television and heard on the radio. If you can see and hear what is going on in our communities as we continue on our road into mainstream

continued on page 19

Tel.: 819-732-9444 WACHIYA AERO LOCATION ABITIBI INC Tel.: 819-732-9712
Route 395, case postale 566, Amos (Quebec) J9T 3A8
Airport Rd.
•Plane trips
•Recreation license
Private and Commercial licensed•
Hydroplane excursions•
•Charter planes
Pilot School

branchaud
Claude Charette
Director
1560, Sullivan Rd. • Val d'Or • Québec •
Tél.:819-874-2610 • Fax:819-825-5378
Amos Tél.:819-732-6998
LE GROUPE SOL-TO
Happy National Aboriginal Day
Page Web:www.branchaud.qc.ca • Internet:ameublex@lino.com

Cree Trappers' Association Vice-President Thomas Coon showing some European Parliamentarians a trappers' camp.

The Cree Trappers' Association and the Cree Regional Authority are in discussions with Canada and Quebec. They have a draft agreement on operations funding for the Cree Trappers' Association for the next five years. This draft agreement will be sent to the Council/ Board members for their information and consideration in the near future.

Discussions on Cree Trappers' Association programs and capital under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement will continue according to the draft agreement.

ᐄᓀᐦᐃᔨᓂᐊᐧᐃᐣ ᑕᑎᐅᔨᐣ ᐁᑕᑎᒪᔨᐧᐣ (ᐄᔨᔨᐧ ᐊᐢᑎᐧ)
GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (EEYOU ASTCHEE)
GRAND CONSEIL DES CRIS (EEYOU ASTCHEE)

ᓀᐦᐃᔨ ᑕᐦᑕᒪᓕᓂᐊ
CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE

continued from page 17

living, how can we be of help to assist misguided youth and other members?

Waskaganish has a high rate of sober-living citizens. The efforts that were made for that social change were done with individual choice and group effort as objectives. That encouragement to me has touched other communities. I think that is the direction to continue as a group - to make changes on violence and its effects in a regional effort, networking as a group with a zero-tolerance policy on violence.

I encourage others as parents and concerned people of our communities. We need to be responsible for our own actions and words with our own children. I have witnessed the negative effect that violence had in my own life as a young boy. The behaviour of a four-year-old boy who was physically beaten violently was never able to overcome the anger from that incident until recently.

The suppression of that inner turmoil went on into adulthood. Keeping silent and expressing my emotions only when attacked physically or emotionally led to more violence. I am not ashamed to say today that I did pass aggressive and violent behaviour to my wife and children, especially during my years of drinking binges I was a part of.

Thankfully, it is about seven years since I have overcome the drugs and booze with help from counselors and belief and faith of our God, the Creator. The effects of violence are passed on to another generation, my children, and we experience difficulties and work on them. I learned to love and forgive the perpetrator of that violence and learned that he too went through a violent period early in his own childhood and so did his abuser.

As a family we are healing from that violent period. I can now listen to my children's feelings and emotions of what we encounter in our daily lives. Listening is not just the words they say but the actions they do.

The unlearning of that early part of my past was finally expressed at a very late period of my life. That was when I was able to overcome the anger, the compulsive and obsessive behaviour of abusing substances such as drugs, cigarettes and alcohol. Gambling is another addictive activity that became easier to overcome. The inner anger needed to come out, but I masked it real good with my addictions. Today, it is still difficult to manage the anger but I can release that in a good and better way.

Other ways that were helpful for me to cope were hobbies like music or sports. One thing that really helped me was encouragement from positive, trusting and honest people who wanted to help and who believed in me. The philosophy I use today is to work toward a healthier and happier lifestyle and there are many new ways to do that! Sometimes the help is staring us in the face but we have a fear or distrust toward others. We need to dig deep within to find the strength, belief and faith of our God, the Creator. When we get past that we can overcome the toxic fear of shame, guilt and anger.

The real friends and people that you can trust will help when you start talking about those problems. Sometimes we are burdened with problems that are too heavy to carry. When this happens, do not hesitate to turn to those trusting friends and counselors. The thought, feelings or verbal communication of just asking for help might be a big step that can only be done when you take the action.

Charles Esau is executive director of the Waskaganish Wellness Centre.

BUY A NEW POLARIS ATV. GET A WARN™ WINCH.
Right now, when you buy a new Polaris ATV, we'll give you a 2000 lb. Warn™ winch.* This "must-have" accessory package includes mounting plate, wiring harness and Hawse fairlead. Hurry! This offer ends May 31, 1999.
Or choose one of these great options:
$250 IN ACCESSORIES OR ZERO DOWN. ZERO PAYMENTS. ZERO INTEREST.
For 90 days at participating dealers.**
POLARIS®
RIDE THE BEST
Où J'ai des Sports
949 3e Rue. • Chibougamau • Quebec
Tel.: 418-748-3366 • Fax: 418-748-3037
*Offer valid 3/1/99-5/31/99. Promotion excludes "everyday low price" models, tax, freight, dealer installation and setup. See your dealer for details. Retail customers only. Offer not valid in combination with any other offers. *At participating dealers only. **Free financing available on approved credit through Polaris Card, at participating dealers, and only at time of sale, provided unpaid balance is paid in full by first payment date. Warning: ATVs can be hazardous to operate. Never carry passengers. Be especially careful on difficult terrain. Never ride on public roads, always avoid paved surfaces. Always wear a helmet and protective clothing. Polaris ATVs may not be ridden by anyone under age 16, and all riders should take a safety course. For safety and training information, see your dealer or call Polaris at 1-800-342-3764. For your nearest dealer call 1-800-POLARIS or visit our website at http://www.polarisindustries.com © 1999 Polaris Industries Ltd.

Kitchi Meegwetch

BY XAVIER KATAQUAPIT

When Alex Roslin, a member of the editorial board for *The Nation* magazine, called recently to tell me I had been nominated for a writing award, I was very surprised. Actually, he explained that my column, Under the Northern Sky, had been nominated for best column in the Quebec Community Newspapers' Association Annual Awards.

It is very satisfying to be recognized for something as personal to me as my writing. It is also gratifying considering that it takes a lot of work to keep up with writing a new column on a regular basis. It is work that I really enjoy. I definitely do not do it for the money as it doesn't pay much but there are other rewards.

It feels good to get feedback from the newspapers and magazines that my column appears in. I really appreciate when a reader bothers to call or write me with comments on the column. I am told by many people up the James Bay coast that they enjoy reading about things that concern them. In addition, First Nation people from right across the country tell me they appreciate learning about the Crees in northern Ontario.

I am really amazed to have been nominated for a writing award this early in my career. I also need to recognize many people who make this column Under the Northern Sky possible. I want to thank my parents Marius and Susan Kataquapit, my grandmother Louise Paulmartin, my sisters, my brothers, my uncles, my aunts, my nieces, my nephews and everyone back home in Attawapiskat who has given me the background and inspiration to write about life on the James Bay coast. My family provides me with lots of story background and often through long phone conversations they help me develop a story idea. I am also grateful to my sister-in-law Christine for encouraging me to write and for providing me with much material on First Nation authors and their stories.

There are a lot of people involved in the regular production of my column. I want to say a special thanks to my friend Mike who has guided me along my way and faithfully provided me with a mentorship in writing. I consider him a gifted writer and I feel honoured for his help in editing every Under the Northern Sky column I produce. I will also be forever grateful to Mike's mom, Emily, who proofreads all of the writing I do. Mike and Emily have given me all that it takes to get a good start in my writing career. Their belief in me and my abilities has opened doors I never knew existed.

Last but not least I want to say a big thanks to all the editors that make space for Under the Northern Sky and who encourage me to keep producing stories of the James Bay coast.

I am so thrilled at being nominated for this writing award and I am also humbled as I know that it is due to the assistance of many people. I'll do my very best to keep telling the stories of the Crees in the North with a renewed interest. Gitchi Meegwetch Kaki Wichi Ehyuck (thank you very much for helping me).

Podium CHIBOUGAMAU sports
YVAN DU SPORT INC. • 434, 3e rue • Chibougamau
418-748-4243
FOR THE BEST CHOICE
IN HUNTING GEAR!
GUNS
AMMUNITION
EQUIPMENT
CLOTHING: REGULAR & CAMO
Come and see our specialist
For all your needs in outdoor gear we are #1!
We always have a gunsmith on site.
Happy National Aboriginal Day
Have a Good Summer!

SUPER PARTY CANADA
BINGO L'ESSENTIEL INC.
2201, BL. JEAN-JACQUES
COSSETTE, VAL D'OR,
(QC) J9P 4N9
Get ready for a big celebration!
We have everything for a nice graduation!
Getting married?
We have everything you need to make the day a magic one:
• Balloons •Tableroll • Napkins •
• Invitations • Streamers • Plates • Bows •
• Ticket Rolls • Flags • Novelties • Costumes •
WE TAKE C.O.D. 1-800-667-0857

514-866-5090
GAY LINE
1-888-505-1010
Information and help for lesbian, gays and bisexuals.
Calls from family and friends welcome.
Open 7-11 pm, 365 days a year.
We're here to listen when you want to talk.

continued from page 6

on the rise of diabetes in the Cree communities (May 7 & 21), I would like to congratulate the people of Waskaganish who are fighting to prevent or control diabetes. The answer to this new disease in Eeyou Istchee is to make a personal commitment to change. Over the past few years there has been a huge increase in general interest and overall knowledge about diabetes. People have begun to make exercize a part of their daily life by walking, snowshoeing and other activities. Many people are making clinic appointments to test for diabetes, or just to discuss ways to improve their diet. All these people have made a decision to live a healthier life.

There is no question that fried food tastes great - most people would choose poutine over a baked potato any day! But a baked potato still tastes fine. Diet pop tastes the same as regular pop. With a few spices, chicken can taste great broiled or baked, even without the skin or gravy. I often ask people if they feel they are "suffering" by choosing to eat better. The answer is always that it takes a bit more planning and thinking before they put food in their mouth, but overall they feel much better with these changes. An Elder from another community once said she looks at diabetes as a blessing, since it forced her to learn to live a healthier life.

Don't take diabetes sitting down. Get up, walk, learn all there is to know about diabetes, and enjoy a happy, healthy life.

Dr. David Dannenbaum, Waskaganish

Thoughts of peace

Letter to *The Nation*:

"Pay blood with blood," shouted Chinese students at a rally.

It is my opinion that the catastrophe at the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade from the NATO bombing was an accident. It should be a reminder that this tragedy is a result of a mentality which is spiritually bankrupt. Societies everywhere have forgotten their priority in life with the natural world and Sacred Mother Earth. I sincerely hope that the NATO missiles that struck the Chinese Embassy will cause the Chinese world community to rethink the invasion of Tiber and loss of life and suffering to the Tibetan people. Our lessons in life are sometimes

extremely painful but most should not be ignored!

The actions of sick students in Columbine and Taber, Alberta, could possibly motivate society here to understand we have a crisis in America called spiritual bankruptcy or war. These situations must not be ignored or taken without serious consideration any longer. As stated by Rev. Dale Lang, the grieving father of a slain high school student, "May God have mercy on this broken society."

Images of war, violence, pain, suffering and cruelty increase as the media bring statistics of the cancer to the public caught in a world of material gain and psychological needs. Everywhere today in the world people are walking the streets with the aftereffects of generations and centuries of aggression, hostility, war and rape. The pain and disappointment from broken peace and loss of life have left our children lost, sick and dangerous. We look out our windows here in Canada and everything is the same, but the suffering elsewhere has become unbearable. How long before Canada can see the pain and suffering falling from the skies on their own children? The victims of our bombs are caused by generations of a world dysfunction and a cancer known as war. There can never be peace until justice is created for everyone in the world. Our true strength will come from our own voice for peace and harmony.

The old Elders say that when the world was new, we were compared to flowers in the garden. There are roses, morning glories, tulips, daisies, some are short, some are tall, some are blue, red, orange, but they are all flowers and when you put them together in an arrangement, they make a beautiful bouquet. So our job now as human beings is to arrange ourselves like a bouquet of flowers, and in order to do that, there has to be elimination of war tools, especially bombs. We have to learn again that the Earth is our Sacred Mother and nor just to the Mohawks and Native Americans, but to the Italians, the black people of Africa and Asians, etc. We all must learn to protect, honour and respect this Sacred Mother Earth that we all receive nourishment and beauty from. Only when all the people of the four directions of Mother Earth learn to be interested in peace and harmony can there be a chance for life to survive.

The old Elders believe that the exploitation of their rights and home is causing great unrest everywhere for the world. We hope that the bombs will stop falling from the sky and that they will never fall on us from the hatred and pain created by misguided leaders everywhere. The old Elders say that a monster is eating at us all and that we must turn to our sacred medicines and ceremonies in order to stay strong. We must be healthy in order to keep our minds focused on the purification that must come. Our thoughts, prayers and actions must be for beauty and peace and not for hate, revenge or war. We must come home at night in peace and not bring anger into our homes. We should try to make each other happy in beauty because the Great Spirit and Sacred Mother Earth can feel our love again. If we try to do the best to make good with our life, then all of Creation will be satisfied with our actions. I sincerely hope these worlds will inspire anyone who might feel they can do a little more to help humanity and Mother Earth for peace and good health.

Danny Beaton
Kahniakehaka (Mohawk Nation), Toronto

CREE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LTD.

The management and staff of the CCDC wishes to extend its congratulations to its President, MR. STEVEN BEARSKIN, on his recent appointment to Industry Canada's National Aboriginal Economic Development Board.

187B, Main St.
P.O. Box 1011
Mistissini (Quebec)
Tel.: (418)923-3888
Fax: (418)923-2050

208, Migneron
St-Laurent (Quebec)
Canada H4T 1Y7
Tel.: (514)738-3414
Fax: (514)342-7778

WASKAGANISH FIRST NATION

CONGRATULATIONS TO STEVEN BEARSKIN on his appointment to the National Aboriginal Economic Development Board (NAEDB). With your skills and business experience you will no doubt make a positive contribution to this Board.

Dr. Billy Diamond, Chief
Waskaganish First Nation Council

Chisasibi Centre Inc.
P.O. Box 330 Chisasibi, Quebec J0M 1E0
Tel.: (819) 855-2838

The staff of the Chisasibi Centre Inc. would like to take this opportunity to congratulate STEVEN BEARSKIN on his recent appointment to the National Aboriginal Economic Development Board. It is a richly deserved honour.

Cree School Board
Commission scolaire Crie

The Council of Commissioners, staff and students of the Cree School Board would like to congratulate MR. STEVEN BEARSKIN on his recent appointment to the National Aboriginal Economic Development Board.

You are a positive role model for our youth.

Steven Bearskin named to federal advisory board

The Liberal government has appointed Steven Bearskin to Industry Canada's National Aboriginal Economic Development Board.

The board advises Aboriginal Business Canada, which has a budget of $32.8 million this year.

Bearskin has been president of Cree Construction since 1992. He also worked for the Cree Health Board and the Grand Council of the Crees.

Bearskin was unavailable for comment on his appointment.

He has braved his share of challenges over the years. He was also a band councillor in Chisasibi from 1981 to 1987, the years right after the community moved from Fort George Island.

In 1993, Cree Construction was at the centre of a controversy over a $73-million contract it awarded to the construction company Beaver Asphalte to build the 116-kilometre Route du Nord.

Beaver Asphalte was owned by the family of Tommy D'Errico, former treasurer of the Quebec Liberal Party; the Liberals were in power at the time.

The regular tendering process was bypassed in the awarding of the contract.

The PQ Opposition charged Beaver Asphalte was pocketing $30 million in profits on the deal, an allegation that Cree Construction dismissed as untrue.

But Bearskin persevered, piloting Cree Construction into international projects around the world and joint ventures at home in the Cree communities. Under his guidance, Cree Construction has been one of the few consistently profitable Cree companies on the regional level and is one of the Crees' biggest employers.

The National Aboriginal Economic Development Board has 20 private-sector members, mostly Natives. Bearskin is the only one from Quebec.

Joining Bearskin are: Stan Beardy, Cynthia Bertolin, Gary Bosgoed, Mary Jamieson, Keith Roderick Julien, Mary MacDonald, Frieda Martselos, Arthur Mercer, Doreen Saulis, Joanne Taptuna, Melinda Tatty, Rosa Walker and Roy Whitney.

BY NATION STAFF

Chee Bee Construction

The members of the Board of Directors and the staff of Chee Bee Construction Incorporated would like to congratulate our long-time friend and associate STEVEN BEARSKIN on his recent appointment to Industry Canada's National Aboriginal Economic Development Board.

Cree Nation of Chisasibi

The Cree Nation of Chisasibi would like to congratulate **STEVEN BEARSKIN** on his appointment to Industry Canada's National Aboriginal Economic Development Board.

LES MINES

INMET

Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division

POSTING / 066
MILLRIGHT 3RD CLASS
(PERMANENT) (MILL)

The Troilus Division is presently searching for a MILLRIGHT 3rd CLASS (Mill) to join their young and dynamic management team. The Troilus Division is a gold and copper open pit mine with a mill capacity that have been upgraded to 15, 000 tpd. The mine site is located at 175 km north of Chibougamau by way of the "Route du Nord." The selected candidate will work on a 7 - 7 schedule (7 days of work, 7 days off) or a 4 - 3 schedule (4 days of work, 3 days off), and will be lodged at the site's first quality camp.

Required qualifications:

The candidate must have completed high school diploma or a commitment to complete secondary school or possess relative experience. Completion of a three to four (3 - 4) years apprenticeship program or a combination of over five (5) years of work experience in the trade. Trade certification is an asset. Welding experience is required. Five to ten (5 - 10) years experience in mill environment. Experience on large SAG, ball-mills, gyratory and cone crushers is required. Basic knowledge of French. English is an asset.

Main responsibilities:

- Reads diagrams and schematic drawings to determine work procedures;
- Installs stationary mill machinery and mechanical equipment according to layout plans using hand and power tools;
- Operates hoisting and lifting devices to position machinery and parts during the installation, sets-up and repairs of machinery;
- Inspects and examines machinery and equipment to detect and investigate irregularities and malfunctions;
- Adjusts machinery and repairs or replaces defective parts;
- Cleans, lubricates and performs other routine maintenance work on machinery;
- Assembles or repairs machinery and equipment prior to installation using hand, power tools and welding equipment;
- Installs and repairs piping;
- Installs and/or modifies equipment as required by production;
- Performs other related duties.

Particularities and remuneration:

Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. The position is addressed to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages and are committed to the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants of their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae, not later than **June 27, 1999** to:

Human Resources Manager
Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division
P.O. Box 8700
Chibougamau (Quebec)
G8P 3A9

(Please indicate the posting number on your envelope.)

ᐃᓕᓴᐃᔨᐣ ᑕᐯᒋᑲᓇᐣ
CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMPENSATION
ADMINISTRATION REGIONALE CRIE
BUREAU D'INDEMNITE

203, Opemiska Meskino
Ouje-Bougoumou
Qc.• G0W 3C0

Tel.:(418)745-3931 • Fax:(418)745-3844

The members and staff of the Board of Compensation/Cree Co. and its subsidiaries extend their congratulations to MR. STEVEN BEARSKIN on his recent appointment to Industry Canada's National Aboriginal Economic Development Board (NAEDB).

CREE NATION OF EASTMAIN

It is with pleasure that the Cree Nation of Eastmain congratulates STEVEN BEARSKIN on his recent appointment to Industry Canada's National Aboriginal Economic Development Board.

WHEN DOGS WERE STILL USED

BY ERNEST WEBB

On one of my hunting trips during the goose break, I was reminded of one of my earliest memories of my grandfather, George Bobbish. This spring we were on the river going by Goat Island on the north side. As we made our way downriver, I saw the area where my late grandfather used to get his firewood. It is directly across Fort George where the original community is.

I was a very young boy when I joined him on his day trips across the river. The two of us would make our way across the frozen river. Mighty sled dogs pulled the flat-bed sled to our destination. He would check the snares that he hung along the way and around our old fires from previous tea breaks. He used to lay trees in a circle around where the old fires were, blocking access for the rabbits except where his snares hung. For some reason, rabbits are drawn to the burned-out embers.

I'm sure I wasn't much help during the gathering of the fire wood. I guess I just went along to keep my grandfather company. I can just barely remember our crossings. I would lie on my stomach on the sled and he ran along the sled and sometimes jumped on when the going was easy. I fought with my hat as it would slide down to my eyes. Pulling it up, again and again, I would catch a glimpse of the sled bouncing along and of the dogs' legs running across the snow and ice.

I have heard people say that my grandfather had the best dog team around. He always lent out some dogs to people who needed them. With the introduction of the snowmobile, dog teams were used less and less. As an older boy, I remember the remants of his team, tied up by his house. Within a couple of years his team was no more. As a young man I asked about his team once. He said dogs were good workers and hunters. Many times they quietly waited for him as he hunted seals out on the ice in the bay.

And he said it's hard to get lost with dogs, even in a blinding blizzard. Many times he traveled back to the community in storms which, on a snowmobile, even someone with experience would be incapable of finding their way in. He said the dogs knew exactly where they were going. Even in a white-out the dogs would pick up speed as they got closer to the community, finally running at full speed home. He said there was no stopping them when they got that way.

So you had to make sure you stayed on the sled. Keeping a dog team requires skill and patience and a knowledge about the way they work. I heard a tape once at the Chisasibi Radio Station in which an Elder told of how to care for the dogs and performed the commands given to the dog team. One person who started a dog team is David Bosum. He runs Nuuhchimi Wiinuu Tours, in Ouje-Bougoumou, which offers dog-team tours as part of its tourism package. The revival of such traditions is very encouraging given that many tools that were needed in the past are no longer in use.

Marking time

My grandfather used a dog team because he had to. As new tools arrive they serve as markers for an end of an era. Many Elders' stories have referred to the times "when dogs were still used." I think I know what marker our generation will have... tents. That's right, tents.

Again, as a young boy, we always used tents when we went for goose break. Both in the spring and fall. A handful of tents erected on traditional hunting grounds dating back eons. The tents gave way to tent frames which naturally evolved to the cabins we now have today. So when our generation tells stories of yesteryear, we will refer to the times when we "still used tents."

Granted, tents are still used for short trips into the bush, but they aren't really used any more for longer-term hunting trips. Sometimes the adoption of these new tools causes immeasurable effects.

On one of the last hunting trips my grandfather made to Seal River, I asked him about the time when they still used sails on their canoes. On a good day, with a motor, you can make it to Seal River in about three and a half or four hours, depending on conditions and motor. He said one time they tried to go to Seal River, but a fierce north wind blew so they couldn't leave.

Then suddenly it shifted to a south wind, but equally as strong. They debated whether to go. Just before noon he said they decided to go. They were in the water by half past noon. He said that they made it to Seal before five. They were fortunate because the following day he said the wind again shifted to the north and blew for weeks.

As he finished his story, Charlie walked in for a visit. Adding to the story, they said their generation is partially responsible for the decline of the Arctic Char in the river. Nowadays you only catch them once in a while. Never have I sensed the seriousness in their tone before; they said because they embraced the outboard motor when it first came around, the char have declined from the river.

"You will now know one of the reasons why there are no char here," they said - "because we were so quick to take the outboard motor." "Akudaa haa?" With that, we went outside to see if the geese were flying.

CLASSIFIEDS

101-BIRTHDAYS

Hey, hey the Nation reader. Those who like to read to classifieds. I would like to take the time to write birthday greetings to my uncles in Chisasibi. Willard wash on May 1, Allen wash on May 6 and to my uncle in Waskaganish Marcel Hester on May 21. I love you all in my little heart. Love always, your niece Darla Meredith Anna. (Waskaganish)

I would like to wish a happy 18th birthday to my friend Lana May Herodier. Her birthday is on May 18th. Have fun and do get to drunk or you won't remember half your birthday. Love in friendship, Alice.

Happy belated sweet 16th birthday to my friend Marjolaine Bellefleur. Her birthday was on April 29. I just wanted to let you know how much our friendship means to me. I'm very lucky to have such a good friend like you. Love in friendship, Alice. PS may our friendship last forever.

We would like to send our love and birthday greetings to our dad, William J. Matthew on May 20th. Hope your day will be a special is you are. Happy 3? Birthday and thank you for always being there for us. We love you very much. Love always, your girls Alice, Edna -Rose, Virginia, Martina and April-Joy.

Attention everyone! A Colorado Avalanche fan will be celebrating his birthday on May 23, 1999. He won't just celebrate his birthday but he will celebrate right after the Colorado avalanche wins the Stanley Cup. Oh! We almost forgot to mention this grade fan of the Colorado avalanche is our dad Fred Tomatuk. Dad, we wish you a happy birthday and many more years to come. From Clayton, Randy, Betty and Justin Tomatuk.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our Grandpa Luke Tomatuk on May 27, 1999. We hope you have many more years to come. From Clayton, Randy, Betty and Justin Tomatuk.

Happy birthday to our mom in Waskaganish Josephine Hester on May 18. We love you. With love, your children MR, RMA,JJ,EA,RB, KR, BA Hester. PS mom, happy Mother's Day too.

Happy birthday to our sisters Cynthia L. on May 30, 1999. She will be celebrating her 14th birthday and also to Tanya L. on June 3, 1999. She will be celebrating her seventh birthday. Cynthia, don't party to much on your birthday. Ha! Ha! Ha! We love you so much. From your sisters Veronica, Priscilla, Shania and your only brother John Ryan in Mistissini.

Birthday wishes going out to my wife in Waskaganish Josephine Hester on May 18. Happy birthday. I love you. From your husband Robert.

Birthday greetings going out to our only brother in Waskaganish Marcel Hester. Call us, brother if you need a hand. We love you. Happy birthday to you on May 21. Love , your sisters, Rachel, Janet, Edith, Roberta, Keena and Bernada.

Happy belated birthday to Nigel Chum-Gull on May 11 and to Eldon Chum-Gull on May 21. Happy birthday to you guys and many more to come. Love you. From Dennis, Jane and Chris. (Waswanipi)

The special birthday wish going out to my big brother Steven Boudrias in Whapmagoostui. Happy 31st. Mom and Victoria also send best wishes. Lots of hugs and kisses from your sister Nancy in Ottawa.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Rene Neeposh on June 2, 1999 and also happy Father's Day. We've always love you. Hope your day special is you are. Love always, Alice, Renee, Patricia and Emma.

Happy 39th birthday to my mom Minnie Matoush on May 22, 1999. I love you very much. You were bring joy to my heart. Love, your daughter Celeste. xoxoxoxo

I'd like to wish a happy birthday to a very special and important person in my life, Diane Salt on June 4. May this special day bring you lots of happiness and laughter and May your wishes all come true. Happy 18th birthday Diane. I love you with all my heart. Eric. PS happy first Mother's Day.

For the month of June: June 10, 1999 Alain Michael Guanish, June 19, Claudia Guanish, June 28, Susie Guanish and Marisa Mameanskum, June 30 Sarah Pien. Happy birthday to all and many more to come. From Marianne and John Kautnat and Pamela Chescappio, Naomi and Michelle and Stephanie Guanish. Kawawachikamach.

I would lead to say happy birthday to a special sister in Eastmain, Linda Mayappo on May 16. May God bless you and keep you safe throughout the years. Love always, Joanne and Jonah in Waswanipi.

Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you, happy birthday to Janet. Happy belated birthday to you on May 5. This birthday song going out to my loving aunt so far away from me, Janet Joyce Hester. Happy birthday. How although you now, 30s somewhere? Joke. Oops. Sorry I hurt your feelings and I love you more than words can say. Ever sick me eh Janet? Okay, okay that's it for now. Love always, your niece who talks about you every single day saying where's Janet. Love, Darla Hester (Waskaganish)

Happy belated birthday to my father Joseph Pachano on April 13 1999. I want to thank you for a being there for me when I went through some hard times. I love you so much. From your daughter Veronica Pachano (Chisasibi)

I would like to say happy birthday to my mother Alice Pachano on May 5 1999. Thank you for being there for me when I needed you the most and I love you so much. Love, your daughter Veronica Pachano (Chisasibi)

Happy birthday to my boyfriend Mario Rupert on May 6 1999. Thanks for being so understanding. You're always there for me when I need you. I'm so thankful to have someone like you. I love you with all my heart. Love always, Veronica Pachano (Chisasibi)

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my sister Natalie June salt. She will be celebrating her 17th birthday on June 6. I hope you'll enjoy your special day. I'm so proud to have a sister like you. You've always been therefore May whenever I needed someone to talk with, to laugh with or to cry with. Once again, happy birthday sister. And I love you so much even though I don't say it often enough. From your sister Diane.

We would like to wish a happy first birthday to her little sweetheart Erica Deanna June salt-Fedora on June 5th. It's a very special day for us and we thank God for giving of such a special little girl. It seems like only yesterday you came into our lives and now you're or one-year old. We hope your birthday's full of fun and happiness because you brought so much joy into our lives and you deserve the best. Happy birthday Erica. With all our love, mommy and Daddy (Diane salt, Eric Fedora) lots of hugs and kisses.

I would like to wish my daughter day happy birthday on July 2, 1999 love, from your mommy

To Clayton house. Happy birthday. Love, from Angela and Kyla.

CAFÉ SAAN **SAAN** STORES LTD

Serving the native community in north-eastern Ontario and north-western Quebec.
Watch for our Goose Break sale throughout the month of May, super discounts.

•10% off food •15% off work socks •
•15% off Kanik boots •15% off sleeping bags •

(419) 748-3273 Fax:(418)748-7833
BILINGUAL SERVICE
C.O.D. ACCEPTED
• SAAN STORES ltd./ltee.#367•
• 586 3e Rue.• Chibougamou• PQ•G8P 1N9

LOCATION VAL-D'OR (819) 825-3335

336, ave.Centrale
Val-d'Or(Québec)
J9P 1P3
Tél: (819)825-3335
Fax:(819) 825-6994

63 Iberville Radisson Bl
Tel.: (819) 638-7292
Fax: (819) 638-7294
C.O.D.'S Accepted

WACHIYA WELCOME

YAMAHA YAMAHA YAMAHA

GRIZZLY
VTT YAMAHA

30 HP YAMAHA

EF 2600X

Serge Dumont
Vendeur
Salesmen

English
&
French

Special Finance Rate up to 60 months • Subject to YMCF Credit Approval

photo: Robert Monderie

Native Films and Videos
from the Americas

Traditionnal Dancers
and Drummers

Visual Arts Exhibitions
and other activities

photo: Robert Monderie

Not an Act of God #1 by Glenna Matoush, 1998

CELEBRATE WITH US
IN THE HEART OF MONTRÉAL

Montréal 9th annual

FIRST PEOPLES' FESTIVAL 1999

From June 8 to June 22

photo: Rholem Karim

World premiere of Ondinnok Native Theatre's last play :
Iwouskéa et Tawiskaron

The 20th of June, a parade displaying the colors
of the First Nations for the National Aboriginal Day

Live painting with *Glenna Matoush, Danna Williams, Carry Taylor...*
and our special guest from Bolivia : *Roberto Mamani Mamani* (Aymara)

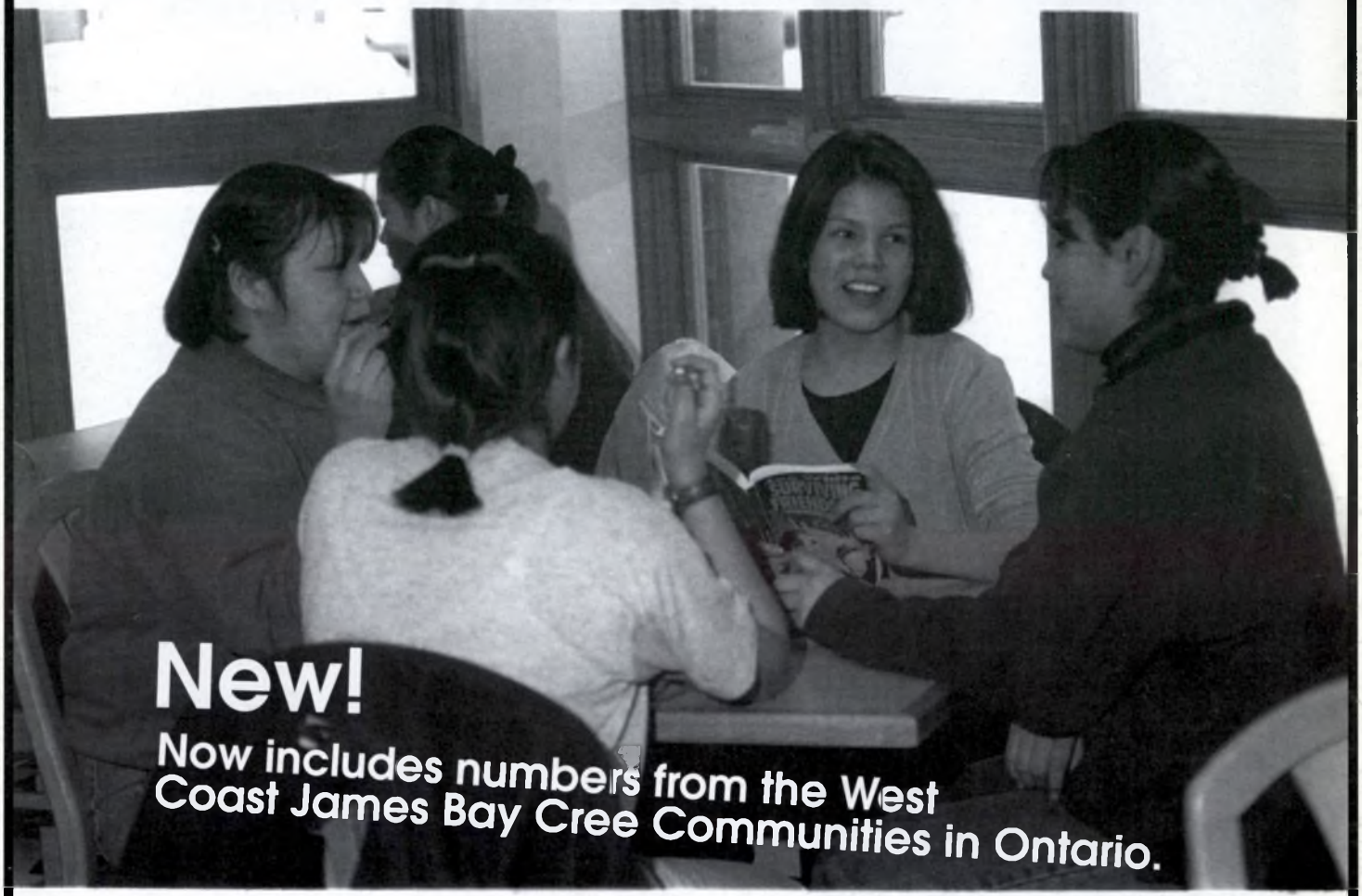
TERRES EN VUES
LAND InSIGHTS
Société pour la diffusion de la culture autochtone

770 Rachel East, Montréal (Québec) Canada, H2J 2H5
vox 514-521-9993 • fax 514-521-9480
terresenvues@videotron.ca
http://**www.autochtones.com/festival99**

Year 2000

James Bay Cree Telephone Book

Connecting 25,000 James Bay Cree all year long.



The James Bay Cree Telephone Book has become so well-used and popular that other Cree Communities are joining! This year, the Cree communities on the West Coast of James Bay will also be listed, allowing friends, family and businesses to stay in touch into the new millenium. The year 2000 James Bay Cree Telephone Book will be the only telephone directory to link the 25,000 Cree of James Bay.

We need your help in making this year's telephone book complete!
Please see our full page ad inside on page 8.

The James Bay Cree Telephone Book • Keeping us in touch into the new millenium